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Commissioners. Buffalo, N. Y., The J. N. Matthews Co. *Scale:* 14 miles to 1 inch. *Size:* 29¼ x 17¼ inches.

From Velhagen & Klasing, Publishers, Bielefeld und Leipzig:

Deutschland im Stillen Ozean. Von Georg Wegener. *Land und Leute*, XV. Bielefeld u. Leipzig, Velhagen & Klasing, 1903. 8vo.

From Henri Vignaud, Author, Paris:

La Route des Indes et les Indications que Toscanelli aurait fournies à Colomb. Lettre au Dr. Jules Mees, de Gand, qui pourra intéresser le Dr. Sophus Ruge, de Dresde. Paris, Ernest Leroux, 1903. pr., 8vo.

From the International Bureau of the American Republics, Washington, D. C.:

Map: Nicaragua. From Official and Other Sources. Prepared in the International Bureau of Am. Republics, W. W. Rockhill, Director. Washington, 1903. *Scale:* 12.5 miles to 1 inch. *Size:* 28 x 28½ inches.

From the War Department, Washington:

Map of the Department of Alaska. Projected and Compiled by order of Brig.-Gen. C. M. Randall, U. S. A., in the Engineer Office, Dept. of the Columbia, under the direction of Maj. W. R. Abercrombie, etc., by H. L. Gilbert, Jr., C. E. Washington, D. C., 1902. *Scale:* 50 miles=1 inch. *Size:* 33½ x 27 inches.

From Francis Wardlaw, Esq., New York:

Plan of Rome, containing its several additions from the time of Servius Tullius to that of its being taken by the Gauls. [London? 1800?] [Scale not given.] *Size:* 11¼ x 6¾ inches.—Pianta topografica della Città di Roma dell' anno 1836. Roma, Niccola de Antoni, 1836. *Scale:* 825 Palmi Rom.=1 inch. *Size:* 29¼ x 24½ inches.—Plan of Rome. London, John Murray, 1869. *Scale:* 7½ inches=1 mile. *Size:* 25 x 20½ inches.

From Sir William Willcocks, Author, Cairo:

The Restoration of the Ancient Irrigation Works on the Tigris, or the Re-Creation of Chaldea. . . . *Lecture delivered at a Meeting of the Khedivial Geographical Society, Cairo, 25th March, 1903.* Cairo, National Printing Department, 1903. pr., 8vo.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE FIRST MEETING of the Society for the season of 1903-1904 will be held at Mendelssohn Hall, No. 119 West Fortieth Street, on Tuesday, November 17, 1903, at 8.30 o'clock, P.M.

Prof. E. L. Stevenson, of Rutgers College, will address the Society on Martin Waldseemüller and the early Lusitano-Germanic Cartography of the New World.

On the 15th of December Dr. Frederick A. Cook will describe his experiences in the Exploration and Attempted Ascent of Mount McKinley, in Alaska.

THE EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CONGRESS.—Credit having been given in some quarters to the American Geographical

Society for arrangements connected with the forthcoming—or Eighth—International Geographical Congress, it is deemed best to state here that this Society is entitled to no credit and assumes no responsibility in the matter.

By a rule unanimously adopted at the Congress held in London in 1895 it was ordered that the governing body of each Congress should constitute an Executive Committee to choose, at its own discretion, the place for holding the next ensuing Congress.

In conformity with this rule, the Executive Committee of the Seventh International Geographical Congress, held in Berlin in 1899, selected Washington as the place of meeting of the Eighth Congress; and the responsibility for the organization and conduct of this—the Eighth—Congress naturally devolved upon the National Geographic Society of Washington, which has entered upon its duties with energy. It has appointed a Committee of Arrangements, which has had several meetings and is, doubtless, making good progress.

The Congress will assemble in Washington early in September, 1904. A preliminary announcement, giving details of proposed sessions, classification of subjects, excursions, etc., will be printed in the *BULLETIN* as soon as it is issued by the Committee of Arrangements.

The officers of the Committee are: Dr. W J McGee (Vice-President, National Geographic Society), chairman; Mr. John Joy Edson (President Washington Loan and Trust Company), treasurer; and Dr. J. H. McCormick, secretary. The office of the Committee is in Hubbard Memorial Hall, Washington, D. C., U. S. A.

It is announced that members of the Congress will be entitled to participate in all sessions and excursions, and to attend all social meetings in honour of the Congress; they will also (whether in attendance or not) receive the publications of the Congress, including the final *Compte Rendu*, or volume of proceedings.

Membership may be acquired by payment of \$5 (25 francs, one pound, or 20 marks) to the Committee of Arrangements. Ladies and minors accompanying members may be registered as associates on payment of \$2.50 (12½ francs, or 10 shillings, or 10 marks); they enjoy all privileges of members except the right of voting and of receiving publications.

THE ALASKAN BOUNDARY.—The Commissioners appointed under the Convention signed at Washington on Jan. 24, 1903, which provided for a Tribunal to consist of six impartial jurists of repute judi-

cially to consider and answer questions submitted to it and thereby settle the proper boundary between Alaska and Canada, made its award in London on Oct. 20, 1903. The award was signed by Lord Alverstone and the Commissioners of the United States. The Canadian Commissioners declined to sign it.

When the United States acquired from Russia in 1867 the whole of what was then known as Russian America it was acquired with all its existing lines of demarcation. The frontier fixed by the treaty of 1825 between Russia and Great Britain remained unchanged, the United States having merely succeeded to the territorial rights secured to Russia by that treaty. Unfortunately, the treaty abounded with geographical puzzles, and the United States and Canada could not agree upon their solution.

Was it the intention of the Russian negotiators to bar British territory from the tide-waters of the North Pacific by retaining a continuous fringe of mainland which should run around the head of every indenting arm and inlet? Were there any mountains in existence such as were postulated by the treaty? What precisely was Portland Channel, which was to form part of the southern extremity of the frontier? These problems were the chief of those presented by the questions which the Tribunal was called upon to answer.

The questions submitted to the Tribunal were answered, in brief, as follows:

The boundary line between Canada and Alaska begins at Cape Muzon, the southwestern point of the Prince of Wales Archipelago.

The line extends straight eastward from Cape Muzon across Dixon Entrance to the mouth of Portland Channel.

Portland Channel is that channel which extends to the ocean from about $55^{\circ} 56'$ N. Lat. and passes to the north of Pearse and Wales Islands. These long islands divide the adjacent waters into two channels, and the claim of the United States was that Portland Channel passed to the south of the islands, leaving them in Alaska. The Tribunal decided against this contention, and gave the two islands to Canada; but it further decided that the mouth of Portland Channel is Tongas Channel, between Wales and Sitklan Islands. Thus the two small outlying islands, Sitklan and Kanagunut, are assigned to Alaska.

The line, passing through Tongas Channel, proceeds up the middle of Portland Channel to its northern terminus in about $55^{\circ} 56'$ N. Lat., and thence north between Salmon and Bear Rivers, which empty into the head of Portland Channel, to the 56th parallel.

The greatest point of dispute was whether the treaty of 1825

meant that there should remain in the exclusive possession of Russia a continuous fringe or strip of coast on the mainland, not exceeding 10 marine leagues in width, separating the British possessions from the bays, ports, inlets, havens, and waters of the ocean (the United States contention); or whether the coast mentioned in the treaty should be defined to be that of the general trend of the mainland shores without taking account of the deep inlets, the line crossing these inlets parallel with the trend of the main coast (the Canadian contention) and leaving the heads of the inlets with all their harbours in the possession of Canada. The Tribunal decides this question in favour of the United States, the line fixed being parallel to the sinuosities and not the main trend of the coast, thus leaving the entire water front in the possession of the United States.

The United States contention, further, was that the so-called Vancouver range of mountains north of Portland Channel designated by the treaty of 1825 as the boundary wherever it was not more than 10 marine leagues from the coast does not exist, and therefore was eliminated as a part of the boundary. The Tribunal decided against this contention. It indicated certain mountains between the Taku River and Mt. St. Elias as the mountains referred to in the treaty; but in the south, between the neighbourhood of the Taku River and about 57° 20' N. Lat. the Tribunal expressed its inability, in the absence of further surveys, to indicate the mountains parallel with the coast within the meaning of the treaty.

The effect of this decision is to bring the boundary from Portland Channel to Mt. St. Elias considerably nearer to the coast than the line represented by the extreme United States claims. This part of the boundary, however, cannot accurately be designated on a map until the line has been delimited by a joint survey in accordance with the interpretation of the treaty of 1825 now given by the Tribunal.

THE FOURTEENTH SESSION of the International Congress of Americanists will take place in Stuttgart from Thursday, August 18th to Tuesday, August 23, 1904.

The subjects to be discussed by the Congress relate to:

- (a) The Native Races of America: their Origin, Distribution, History, Physical Characteristics, Languages, Inventions, Customs, and Religions.
- (b) The Monuments and the Archæology of America.
- (c) The History of the Discovery and Occupation of the New World.

Membership is acquired by the payment of 12 marks (3 dollars or 15 francs) by postal money order or by check, payable to the treasurer of the Committee of Organization,

MR. THEODORE G. WARNER,
Stuttgart, Königstrasse 35.

Members have the right to vote, are admitted to all the general arrangements of the Congress, and receive the publications gratuitously.

The languages of the Congress are English, German, French, Italian, and Spanish.

MR. FRANCIS H. NICHOLS, favourably known by his work, *Through Hidden Shen-si*, published last year, is now in Western China, continuing the exploration so successfully begun in the Province of Shen-si. The American Geographical Society was able to extend some aid towards his present expedition; and it is hoped to publish in the BULLETIN, from time to time, brief notices of his observations and progress. The last letter received from Mr. Nichols was written at Chung-King, in the Province of Szechwan, on the 4th of September. He had just arrived, after a toilsome and perilous voyage of 29 days through the gorges of the Yangtsze at the season of high water, when the current of the great river runs ten or twelve miles an hour, and the boat must be pulled up-stream along the bank.

NAMES IN THE ARCTIC.—*Science*, of October 16, publishes the following communication from Mr. Edwin Swift Balch:

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: The president of the Royal Geographical Society, Sir Clements R. Markham, in the *Geographical Journal* for July, 1905, Vol. XXII., page 7, note, says: "The land which is divided from Greenland by Smith Sound forms a long island, and as many as seven names have been given to various parts of it—1. North Lincoln, 2. Ellesmere Land, 3. King Oscar Land, 4. Schley Land, 5. Arthur Land, 6. Grinnell Land, 7. Grant Land. It is a geographical necessity that, for purposes of description, there should be a name for the whole island. It was first discovered by Baffin in 1616, and first named Ellesmere by Inglefield in 1853. Its name should, therefore, be Ellesmere Island." A map on page 57 of the same volume shows "Ellesmere Island" and omits "Grinnell Land" and "Grant Land:"

It seems desirable to call the attention of American scientists and geographers to this curious proposition, which, without the slightest notice to American geographers, eliminates the American names given to the most important discoveries by Americans in the Arctic, and minimizes as much as possible any recognition of the work of Kane, Hayes, Hall, Greely and Peary.

EDWIN SWIFT BALCH.

PHILADELPHIA, October 6, 1903.

A GEOGRAPHICAL LIBRARY FOR SALE.—M. H. Welter, 4 rue Bernard-Palissy, Paris, has come into possession of the library of the late Vivien de Saint-Martin, who died in 1897 at the age of 95 years. The collection consists of more than five thousand volumes of works on geography, history, ethnography, anthropology, etc. It was assigned by M. Vivien de Saint-Martin during his lifetime in trust to his publishers, Messrs. Hachette & Cie., for a yearly income of 6,000 francs, which was paid to him for twenty-three years.

The library is to be sold, if possible, as a whole, and the price asked for it is 21,000 francs. A catalogue will soon be issued.